
REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 7, 9, 11-12, 15, 19-25, 28, and 31-34 are currently amended. Claims 6, 8, 13-14, 16-18, 26, and 29-30 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments contained herein are fully supported by the Specification as originally filed and do not include new matter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16, 18-20, 22-23, 26, 28-30, and 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ardito et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,776,479). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 8, 14, 16, 18, 26, and 29-30 have been canceled, thereby mooted the rejections thereof.

Claims 1 and 22, as currently amended, each include a first vent disposed in a cover of an ink reservoir and a second vent passing through a wall of the ink reservoir that is opposite the cover and that is in addition to an interconnect port passing through the wall. Ardito et al. does not include a second vent passing through a wall of the ink reservoir that is opposite a cover and that is in addition to an interconnect port passing through the wall. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not include each and every recitation of claim 1 or claim 19, so claims 1 and 19 should be allowed.

Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and thus are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 1. Claim 23 depends from claim 22 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 22. Therefore, claims 2-5 and 23 should be allowed.

Claim 9, as currently amended, includes a first labyrinth vent having a first vent hole passing through a cover of the ink reservoir, and a second labyrinth vent having a second vent hole passing through a wall of the ink reservoir that is opposite the cover and a second elongated vent path that is formed in an exterior surface of the wall. Ardito et al. does not include a second elongated vent path that is formed in an exterior surface of a wall opposite a cover. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not include each and every recitation of claim 9, so claim 9 should be allowed.

Claims 10-12 depend from claim 9 and thus are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 9. Therefore, claims 10-12 should be allowed.

Claim 19, as currently amended, includes means for directing a second airflow into a compartment of an ink reservoir through a wall of the ink reservoir that is opposite a cover of the ink reservoir substantially simultaneously with a first airflow through the cover from an atmosphere when the pressure of the atmosphere is greater than the pressure in the compartment and from the compartment to the atmosphere through the wall substantially simultaneously with the first airflow when the pressure of the atmosphere is less than the pressure in the compartment, where the second airflow directing means is separate from an interconnect port passing through the wall. Ardito et al. does not include a second airflow directing means that is separate from an interconnect port passing through a wall of an ink reservoir that is opposite a cover of the ink reservoir. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not include each and every recitation of claim 19, so claim 19 should be allowed.

Claims 20-21 depend from claim 19 and thus are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 19. Therefore, claims 20-21 should be allowed.

Claim 28, as currently amended, includes forming a second elongated vent path in an exterior surface of a wall of an ink reservoir opposite a cover of the reservoir between an atmosphere and a second vent hole passing through the wall for communicatively coupling the second vent hole to the atmosphere. Ardito et al. does not include this. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not include each and every recitation of claim 28, so claim 28 should be allowed.

Claim 32, as currently amended, includes directing a first airflow through a cover of an ink reservoir and substantially simultaneously directing a second airflow through a wall of the ink reservoir opposite the cover and not through an interconnect port in the wall. Ardito et al. does not include substantially simultaneously directing a second airflow through a wall of the ink reservoir opposite the cover and not through an interconnect port in the wall. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not include each and every recitation of claim 32, so claim 32 should be allowed.

Claim 33 depends from claim 32 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 32. Therefore, claim 33 should be allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-7, 13, 15, 17, 21, 24-25, 27, 31, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ardito et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,776,479) in view of

Wantanabe (U.S. Patent No. 6,247,804) in further view of Childers et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,402,306).

Claims 6, 13, and 17 have been canceled, thereby mooted the rejections thereof.

Claims 1, 9, 19, 22, 28, and 32, as currently amended, are patentably distinct from Ardito et al.. Moreover, Ardito et al. in view of Watanabe in further view of Childers et al. fails to overcome the deficiencies of Ardito et al. with respect to claims 1, 9, 19, 22, 28, and 32. Therefore, claims 1, 9, 19, 22, 28, and 32 are allowable over Ardito et al. in view of Watanabe in further view of Childers et al. Moreover, as indicated by the Examiner, Ardito et al. qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Applicant attests that the same person owned Ardito et al. and the claimed invention of present application at the time the claimed invention was made. Therefore, Ardito et al. does not preclude patentability of claims 1, 9, 19, 22, 28, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (35 U.S.C. § 103(c)).

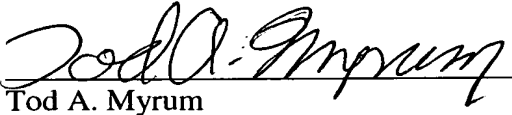
Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 1. Claim 15 depends from claim 9 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 9. Claim 21 depends from claim 19 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 19. Claims 24-25 and 27 depend from claim 22 and thus are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 22. Claim 31 depends from claim 28 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 28. Claim 34 depends from claim 32 and thus is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 32. Therefore, claims 7, 15, 21, 24-25, 27, 31, and 34 are allowable over Ardito et al. in view of Watanabe in further view of Childers et al. Moreover, for the reasons given above, Ardito et al. does not preclude patentability of claims 7, 15, 21, 24-25, 27, 31, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (35 U.S.C. § 103(c)).

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2208.

Respectfully submitted,

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